

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00
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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTO 3031

FOR S/PRS; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND
WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL; USIA FOR IPS/PE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), UR
SUBJ: GROMYKO'S TOAST

REF: (A) SECTO 3023; (B) SECTO 3029

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TASS ENGLISH REPORT ON FOREIGN MINISTER
GROMYKO'S LUNCHEON FOR SECRETARY VANCE ON MARCH 28, INCLUDING THE
TEXT OF GROMYKO'S PREPARED SPEECH. THIS TEXT, HOWEVER, DOES NOT
INCLUDE GROMYKO'S AD LIB REMARKS, INCLUDING HIS LONG COMMENT ON
THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, WHICH ARE NOTED IN REFTELS.

BEGIN TEXT OF TASS REPORT:

ANDREI GROMYKO AND CYRUS VANCE EXCHANGED SPEECHES AT A LUNCHEON
GIVEN TODAY BY POLITBUREAU MEMBER OF THE CPSU CC AND USSR FOREIGN
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MINISTER IN HONOR OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE USA.

AS LEONID BREZHNEV STRESSED IN HIS TALK WITH YOU TODAY,
WE SEE THE MAIN POINT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT WE HAVE BEGUN,
IN THOUGHTFULLY ASSESSING THE PRESENT STATE OF SOVIET-AMERICAN
RELATIONS AND GIVING A FRESH IMPULSE TO THEIR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.

APART FROM BEING IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLES OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES, THE TURN FOR THE BETTER THAT SHAPED OUT IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN PREVIOUS YEARS, WAS ALSO A SUBSTANTIAL FACTOR IN THE GENERAL PROCESS OF THE RELAXATION OF INTERNATIONAL TENSION.

SUCH A TURN BECAME POSSIBLE BECAUSE OUR COUNTRIES REACHED THE FUNDAMENTAL MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING THAT IN THIS NUCLEAR AGE THERE IS NO RPT NO REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE TO PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE. LOGICALLY STEMMING FROM THIS WAS THE ACCORD TO BE GUIDED IN OUR RELATIONS BY THE PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY, NON-INTERFERENCE IN EACH OTHER'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND RECIPROCAL BENEFIT. THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS PRINCIPLE IS STRESSED, AS IS KNOWN, IN THE FINAL ACT OF THE ALL-EUROPEAN CONFERENCE. WE, TOGETHER WITH OUR ALLIES, ATTACH TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE TO THE STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THESE PRINCIPLES AND HAVE NO RPT NO INTENTION TO ABANDON THIS ROAD. LIFE CONFIRMS THAT SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS MAY SHAPE OUT NORMALLY AND FRUITFULLY ONLY GIVEN STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PRINCIPLES, AND, ON THE CONTRARY, ANY ATTEMPT TO IGNORE AND, STILL MORE, TO VIOLATE ANY OF THEM CANNOT BUT HAVE AN UNFAVORABLE EFFECT ON OUR RELATIONS. IT WOULD BE A SERIOUS MISTAKE TO THINK AND ACT DIFFERENTLY.

THE MAIN DIRECTION IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS THROUGHOUT RECENT YEARS WERE AND DOUBTLESSLY STILL ARE MEASURES TO REMOVE THE THREAT OF WAR AND TO END THE ARMS RACE. THIS RANGE OF QUESTIONS, AND ABOVE ALL, THE MATTER OF COMPLETING PREPARATIONS FOR A NEW AGREEMENT TO LIMIT STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, IS CENTRAL TO THE PRESENT TALKS.

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WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THERE IS AN OBJECTIVE POSSIBILITY TO CONCLUDE THE WORK ON THIS AGREEMENT SUCCESSFULLY, WHICH WOULD OPEN THE WAY TO FURTHER POSITIVE STEPS. IT IS REQUIRED, HOWEVER, NOT RPT NOT TO REJECT WHAT WE MANAGED TO ACHIEVE IN THIS MATTER AT THE COST OF GREAT EFFORTS, BUT TO LEAN ON THE FOUNDATIONS ALREADY LAID. WE MEAN THE WELL-KNOWN VLADIVOSTOK ACCORDS ACHIEVED BY OUR TWO STATES AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

LET ME REPEAT, WE BELIEVED AND BELIEVE THAT IN THIS, AND EQUALLY IN OTHER FIELDS, THERE ARE PREREQUISITES AND GREAT RESERVES FOR ADVANCE IN OUR RELATIONS. THIS IS HOW WE WOULD LIKE THINGS TO GO. A CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH BY THE AMERICAN SIDE WILL ALWAYS MEET WITH OUR UNDERSTANDING AND READINESS TO FIND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE ACCORDS.

THEN ANDREI GROMYKO OUTLINED THE SOVIET UNION'S POSITION ON THE PROBLEM OF A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT.

IN CONCLUSION, ANDREI GROMYKO PROPOSED A TOAST TO GOOD, STEADY
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMER-
ICA IN THE INTERESTS OF THE SOVIET AND AMERICAN PEOPLES, IN THE
INTERESTS OF STRENGTHENING PEACE, AND TO THE HEALTH OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE USA.
VANCE

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